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Regional Businesses Benefit as Recovery Act Funding Flows into the Economy at SRS

More than \$11 million in local and small business contracts awarded

Aiken, SC -- Local and small businesses in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) have benefited from more than \$11 million worth of new business since last October, as part of the Department of Energy's (DOE) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act projects at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

The increased level of business activity has allowed Savannah River Remediation (SRR), DOE's liquid waste contractor at SRS, to surpass a number of business goals and commitments.

"It's exciting to see the promises of the Recovery Act become reality," said Rodrigo "Rod" Rimando, the DOE Deputy Federal Project Director for the SRS Recovery Act Project. "Small businesses create jobs and the efforts of our contractors to support small businesses and businesses in our local area is making a difference in these tough economic times."

"We're pleased to be working with and creating opportunities for our local area and small businesses in the region. The early results are have been very positive," said SRR Small Business Program Manager Phillip Mottel. "The Recovery Act is intended to court local companies and allow them to invest, expand and hire. As a small business advocate, I want to make sure local companies have opportunities to fairly compete for work—and they are."

SRR has now spent nearly \$11 million in the Georgia counties of Columbia and Richmond and the South Carolina counties of Aiken, Barnwell and Allendale, which is 73 percent of its total Recovery Act spending. Under the Recovery Act, SRR had committed to spending at least 25% of its funds with local businesses.

SRR also exceeded its small business goal of placing 50 percent of its subcontracts with small business. One hundred and twenty five transactions totaling more than \$9 million provided the contractor with a broad range of critical materials and services, including, technical staffing services and various industrial materials and equipment.

Forty transactions exceeding more than \$2.7 million allowed SRR's Recovery Act project to also significantly exceed its goal to support small, women-owned businesses.

Additional information on the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management and the Savannah River Site can be found at http://www.srs.gov. For more information about the SRS Recovery Act Project, please visit www.srs.gov/recovery.

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